

The Bullet

Volume 76, No. 12

Mary Washington College's student newspaper since 1922.

January 23, 2003

FEATURES

MWC student and singer auditions for 'American Idol' but isn't chosen to advance.

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SPORTS

Men's basketball shoots to 12-2 overall, 3-1 in conference play.

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inside

PARKING WOES:

Student says college has flawed parking rules.

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MWC'S SUBCULTURE:

The Underground prepares for another semester.

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ANOTHER HOLE:

Why is there a big hole by Jepson?

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weather



TODAY:

Light snow and wind with a high of 22 and a low of 13.

FRIDAY:

Mostly sunny with a high of 33 and a low of 12.

SATURDAY:

Mostly sunny with a high of 36 and a low of 12.

SUNDAY:

Few snow showers with a high of 41 and a low of 25.

verbatim

"For the past eight years, you have allowed yourselves to be led by a man who has no moral character or guiding principles."

Robert P. Simpson

MWC Named Most Homogenous College In U.S.

By CORY TEMPLEMAN
Assistant Sports Editor

For Caucasian students across campus, Mary Washington College is the place for them, but for minority students, forget about it.

The college has been ranked as the number one racially homogenous school in the country according to The Princeton Review's 2003 edition of "The Best 345 Colleges."

"I think that The Princeton Review ranking is both shocking and revealing," said Jen Rainey, former president of the Black Student Association (BSA). "On one hand, it's terrible to think that we are the most homogenous school, especially since we tout ourselves as diverse and put minority students on the cover of most of our brochures. I think the school needs to seriously reevaluate their priorities and take a more proactive role in recruitment, retention, and support of minority students."

College officials, however, feel that The Princeton Review's ranking is inaccurate because of the time it takes to diversify a campus.

"When I look around I see a good mix of people from different places, backgrounds, and races," said Jennifer Blair, dean of Undergraduate Admissions. "I'm not saying the school is not homogenous, but I'm not sure why The Princeton Review would have ranked MWC number one in that category because I just don't see it. It takes a lot of time to diversify a school, it doesn't just happen overnight."

"We in Admissions work very hard and do try to reach a broad range of students. After that, it is up to the student if he or she feels that MWC is the place for them," Blair added.

Records from the Office of Admissions say that 12 percent of the total student body at Mary Washington College is made up of minorities. Within that total, eight percent are African-American and Asian-American, three percent are Hispanic, and one percent are multiracial.

In comparison, the total minority student population at The University of Virginia is 25 percent with Asian-Americans making up 11 percent, African-Americans 10 percent, Hispanics four percent, and Native-Americans one percent, according to the Admissions Office at UVA.

"I think that it's easier for us UVA to attract more minority students simply because we are a larger school and more well known than Mary Washington and it's easier for prospective minority students to see the rise in minority population within the school because of the larger enrollment," said Valerie Gregory, assistant dean of Admissions at The University of Virginia.

The Princeton Review, a New York City-based company known for its college test preparation courses, admission and education services, and books conducted a survey of 100,000 students at 345 top colleges to rank schools in "The Best 345 Colleges."

"All of the colleges in this book are outstanding academic institutions," said Robert Franek, editorial director at The Princeton Review. "We compile ranking lists in many categories, not just one, based on what students at the schools tell us about their campus experiences."

The survey used by The Princeton Review consists of 70 questions asking students about

see PRINCETON, page 2



Above: White students.

Worth Stokes/Bullet

College Sells 45 Acres On Route 1

Developers Pay \$1.1 Million To Build Homes

By TERRY L. NORTON
Staff Writer

In August, Mary Washington College sold 45 acres along Route 1 to Dogwood Development Group for \$1,100,010.

Mary Washington College closed the sale of the property between Hazel Run and Beverly Road with representatives for Dogwood Development Group on Aug. 15. Last spring, the college's Board of Visitors decided to sell two plots of land along Route 1. However, when the city of Fredericksburg threatened to rezone one of the plots, the college decided only to sell one of the two plots.

"The BOV declared the land surplus because of its distance from the campus," said Richard Hurley, executive vice president and chief financial officer.

According to Hurley, Dogwood Development Group of Reston won the bidding with an offer of \$1,100,010.

Ray F. Smith Jr. President of Dogwood Development Group said that they are planning a 48-home community in conjunction with Sommerset Homes a housing construction company. He said that they learned about the college offer from an ad in the Free Lance-Star.

According to Jervis Hairston, Director of Planning and Community Development for Fredericksburg, the property is zoned R-4 and abuts land already owned by Dogwood and is

next to Home Depot off Route 3. He said that R-4 zoning allows for four detached single-family dwellings per acre.

Smith said that the property next to Home Depot is a different project in cooperation with Ryland Homes Construction.

Smith said that he believed there was only one other respondent to the offer. He said that he thought that Dogwood's bid was substantially higher.

"Their bid was 60 percent lower than ours," Smith said.

Hurley said that the transaction was done in accordance with state guidelines. The guidelines required the college to put out a request for bids on the property. Attorneys for Dogwood and a member of the Attorney Generals Office representing the college closed the deal.

Hurley said that the \$1.1 million has been put into an auxiliary reserve fund, which is designed to pay for improvements and repairs to college auxiliary buildings such as Seacobeck Hall and residence halls.

Dogwood has several other projects across Northern Virginia and is known locally for its involvement in the proposed Town of Chancellorsville development which would rezone Mullins Farm in Spotsylvania County along state Route 3 West. Mullins Farm was the scene of bitter fighting in 1863 during the Civil War, and preservationists and historians oppose its development.



Jackie Mancini/Bullet

The closed Alvey Drive.

Alvey Drive To Open This Semester

By JAMES TRAMEL
Staff Writer

Students making a quick shortcut using Alvey Drive from Route 1 may save about three minutes of driving time, but could also wind up dead, if Alvey Drive were to collapse.

Alvey Drive runs between Goolrick Hall and Sunken Road, down to the residential student's parking lot. While a road collapse is unlikely, the instability of the earth under the road is the reason for Alvey Road's closure and construction, according to John Willemuth, assistant vice president of Facilities Services.

Senior Rebecca Griffith says she uses the road because she works at Goolrick.

"It's very convenient, and I wished

they'd get it fixed because taking that short cut saves a lot of time," Griffith said.

Alvey road is currently open only to one-way traffic, according to Willemuth. There are no traffic signs up to indicate this traffic pattern, however. The road signs that advise changing traffic one way only or out all together, keep coming down, according to Willemuth. The only explanations for this, he said, are students who take the signs down themselves.

Willemuth said that they have had to reestablish the traffic signs on several occasions. This presents a danger to students, who may be driving on the road unaware of its hazardous conditions.

"The road has begun to fail due to erosion and time," Willemuth said. "To

see ALVEY, page 2

College's First Paperless Grade Attempt Crashes, Burns

By ALBERT KUGEL
News Editor

Students trying to get their grades online from EagleLink on Wednesday, Dec. 18 instead received error messages from the Mary Washington College server, confusing some and angering many.

"Our server sustained too many hits at one time," said Registrar Susan Stevenson. "It got to the point where no one could log in."

The problem behind the delay in grade distribution was a false hope that the college's near obsolete mainframe could handle the majority of students accessing

their grades at once. Though students eventually received their grades through email, college officials said that the old mainframe would be replaced allowing more students access to EagleLink at once.

Director of Information Systems Dana Abbot said that though the college's first attempt at providing paperless grades for students ignited the student body in frustration, many lessons were learned.

"We naively thought that we wouldn't have thousands of hits at a time and our mainframe simply could not perform," Abbot said. "We then put out a splash page to put semi-appointments for the web-page.

This helped but it was not a great solution." Stevenson blames the EagleLink crash on the system, not naivete.

"This is a system problem, there was no real human error involved," she said.

Abbot said that Computer Network Services and the Office of the Registrar worked side by side to come up with a decision on how to deliver grades to students before the college's winter break officially began on Dec. 20.

"We switched gears on Thursday, the 19th, and said to ourselves, 'We have to do something before the college closes,'" she said. "We worked on email registration and

stayed [at the office] into that night."

Abbot said that by Friday Dec. 20 at about 9 a.m., all grades were distributed through email.

"Historically, we would have mailed out the grades, and students would not have gotten them until around Christmas Eve," Abbot said.

Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer Chip German said the attempt to provide paperless grades through the web was more than ambitious.

"What we were trying to do with grades

see EAGLELINK, page 2

Police Beat

By PORTSIA SMITH
Assistant News Editor



Dec. 3—At 11:38 p.m., a student in Bushnell Hall reported being harassed by a visitor who refused to leave. Lee McNeal, 22, of Chillicothe, Ohio was escorted off campus and issued a trespass warning.

Dec. 5—Between Dec. 1 and 5, Unknown suspects removed \$20 worth of quarters and a plastic cup from a vehicle parked in Battlegrounds parking lot. The vehicle was left unlocked. The case is under investigation.

Dec. 5—A vehicle parked in the Battlegrounds parking lot was vandalized. The driver side door lock was damaged and the paint around the lock was scratched. There was no sign of entry and damage was estimated at \$250. The case is under investigation.

Dec. 7—Between Dec. 6 and 7, the right side window was broken and a RCA portable CD player, valued at \$100, was stolen from a vehicle parked in the Battlegrounds parking lot. Damages were estimated at \$200. The case is under investigation.

Dec. 11—At 4:25 p.m., Mari Beth Gaffner, 22, of Burke, and Clyde Conklin Jr., 34, of Alexandria, were selling pictures inside of Jepson Hall. They had not received a vending permit from the college and both were escorted off campus and issued a trespass warning.

Dec. 15—A male sophomore student in Randolph Hall was found in possession of vodka. The alcohol was confiscated and the student was referred to administration.

Dec. 13—Unknown suspects tried to burn a bulletin board on the third floor of Bushnell Hall. There was minimal damage. The case is under investigation.

Jan. 5—A stolen car from Fredericksburg was found in Orange County, Fla. The license plate on the car belonged to the Mary Washington College Foundation. The Foundation was aware that the plates were missing and had filed for new plates. A suspect was arrested and being held in Florida on other charges.

Jan. 10—Around 5:15 p.m., campus police observed two suspicious males parked in a vehicle in the Battlegrounds parking lot. As the police came closer the individuals began to sink down in their seats. The officer saw open alcohol containers and smelled the odor of marijuana. Jerry Benfield, 22, of Fredericksburg and Craig Hughes, 25, of Spotsylvania were arrested for possession of marijuana. They were both released on summons and are pending court.

Jan. 13—Around 3 p.m., Damien Haussling, 31, of no fixed address was seen inside of Woodard Campus Center. He was already barred from campus and was arrested for trespassing. He spent five days in jail.

Jan. 14—At 10:08 p.m., three underage male students were found in possession of numerous cans of alcohol. The alcohol was confiscated. The students were referred to administration.

Jan. 20—A search warrant was obtained to look for stolen property in the Fredericksburg hotel room of Damien Haussling, 31, of no fixed address. Over 700 CDs were found, some belonging to Mary Washington College students. Haussling was arrested for possession of stolen property and is being held at Rappahannock Regional Jail on a \$2,000 bond.

It's Official! MWC Not Diverse

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their own school's academics, campus life and student body, as well as their study hours, politics, and opinions. The surveys are conducted on campuses on paper and electronically.

One question on the survey was, "Is your student body made up of diverse race and ethnic types?"

"In the case of Mary Washington College, the majority of the students who opted to take the survey answered no to this question. That was the biggest factor why we ranked them as the number one homogeneous school in the country," said Jeanne Krier, assistant editor at Princeton Review Books.

Grove City College, Ohio State University-Columbus, Susquehanna University, and the Webb Institute rounded out the top five homogeneous schools in the country according to the 2003 edition of "The Best 345 Colleges."

Debra Schiefel, assistant professor of Sociology whose teaching areas include racial and ethnic minorities, said that the lack of minorities on campus is not necessarily the college's fault.

"I guess my main feeling from a sociological perspective is that we'd have to not only focus on MWC per se, but on schools like it. That is to say, it isn't solely MWC's fault or necessarily the fault of individuals who work here, but certainly this campus, like others like it, is a chilly climate for students of color," Schiefel said.

Schiefel also felt that special scholarships and mentoring would be useful for minority students but that they must be used carefully.

"MWC would have to be careful not ghettoizing students of color by giving them special scholarships. Ultimately, the burden should be on all faculty and students to make this a safe and comfortable place for students of color," Schiefel said.

Blair said that there are not any special scholarships at the college specifically aimed at minorities and that all scholarships are based on need and merit and that minorities are given scholarships if qualified.

According to Blair, Mary Washington College participates in a number of both on and off campus programs that involves the recruitment of minority students.

"The Admissions Office works year round recruiting minorities. We travel to a number of high schools in northern Virginia, Washington D.C., Baltimore, and the Virginia Beach area where there are a high number of minority students enrolled in those schools in efforts to get Mary Washington's name out in the open," Blair said.

Blair also said that the Admissions Office coordinates Celebrating Cultural Diversity Weekend every April. This allows minority students who have already been offered admission to the college to participate in events such as the Multicultural Fair so that these prospective

students get a first hand look at the student body.

The Office of Admissions also participates in a program called the National Scholarship Search for Negro Students, which organizes college fairs targeted exclusively for African-Americans.

"These programs have helped raise the total diversity of Mary Washington's campus. In the past two years, the number of incoming freshmen who are minorities has risen from 10 to 12 percent," Blair said.

Gregory said that Mary Washington College participates in many of the same minority recruitment stages that U.Va. does, including traveling to high schools with a high minority population and the National Scholarship Search for Negro Students. However, most of U.Va.'s minority recruitment comes from a branch within their Admissions Office called the Outreach Office.

"The mission of the Outreach Office is to welcome students from underrepresented groups to The University of Virginia. To help students compete successfully in the admission process and U.Va. and to give students general advice about finding a college that will help them reach their potential and achieve their dreams," said Gregory, director of The Outreach Office at U.Va.

The James Farmer Multicultural Center at MWC, a service much like the Outreach Office at U.Va., focuses on promoting racial diversity on Mary Washington College's campus.

"The Multicultural Center strives to facilitate students' learning and personal development, including that of the under-represented groups, by increasing student awareness and knowledge of diversity issues that frame both the individual and the community," said Ameetia Vashee, director of the James Farmer Multicultural Center.

According to Gretta Franklin, multicultural student counselor at the James Farmer Multicultural Center, race is too much of an issue at the college.

"I get a chance to talk with many minority students on campus and some of them feel that race is the only thing that defines them. For instance, in a class of 40 or so there may be only one or two minority students in the entire room and they sometimes feel as if they are only seen as the black girl or the Asian girl and not as a normal member or the student body," Franklin said.

College officials said they feel that the ranking The Princeton Review gave is not that important to the college's overall ranking.

"You have to remember that The Princeton Review is only one of many publications that ranks colleges and we are not recognized as the least diverse by the majority of them," Blair said.

The Princeton Review's rankings of Mary Washington College and the other 345 best colleges in the country may be found at www.princetonreview.com.

Nation In Brief

By Lindsay Beaton



Pick 'n Save Gets Picky

OAK CREEK, Wis.—Don Meyer only wanted some non-alcoholic beer. Instead, he got carded. Most alcoholic-beverage retailers card people who look like they're under 30 or 40, reported the Associated Press, but Meyer wasn't going for it. Not only was his beverage not alcoholic, he is 76 years old. "I tell you I was really ticked off—this little-by-little chipping away at your rights," Meyer says. Pick 'n Save officials say that they will now card everyone regardless of age. "We've had a few complaints," says Robert Mariano, president and chief executive officer of Pick 'n Save's parent company, Roundy's Inc. "People may not like it but they understand what we are trying to do. We're just trying to do the right thing."

Travel Light—Fly Naked!

MIAMI—A 172-seat Boeing 747 will definitely have to keep the shades down for this flight. The flight from Miami to Cancun will be a "clothing optional" flight, according to the Associated Press. Castaways Travel, a travel agency that specializes in clothing-optional vacations, will be providing the world's first nude flight to Cancun, where passengers will stay at a nudist resort for a week. "People are looking for stress relief," says Castaways co-owner Jim Bailey. "In a nudist environment, everyone is the same." The \$499 flight will include a fully-clothed staff, towels on the chairs, and a noticeable lack of hot drinks and food.

Fake Owl Causes Hoots of Confusion

RACINE, Wis.—Instead of being worried, Angie Anderson laughed in the face of the zoo official who knocked on her door to inform her that he would be trying to catch the wild owl in her front yard. Officials at the Racine zoo and the state Department of Natural Resources couldn't figure out why the apparently injured animal wasn't moving, reported the Associated Press. Anderson informed the official that she had the answer he was seeking—the bird is a fake. She even pulled the bird out of the ground to show him the metal poles holding it up. A DNR worker took the bird away to test its feathers, and then suggested to Anderson that she leave the bird inside. "I put it right back out there when I got it back," said Anderson. She did, however put up a sign for concerned passersby to read: "This is not a real owl."

Winners of Spelling Bees Need Not Apply

CHARLESTON, W.Va.—Education may be a platform for most political candidates, but several politicians seem to have fallen off the bandwagon. The official filing forms in the city clerk's office in Charleston show that some candidates decided to invent new political parties for themselves, reported the Associated Press. Among these were "Democrat," "Democrat," "Republican" and "Republican." "I was kind of rushed," said Republican challenger Al Carey. "I was rushed," said Democrat Dana Griffith. "I was trying to beat the deadline; I didn't even pay any attention to it. I was in a big hurry." It doesn't seem to have an impact on their popularity though. Fred Pettry spelled his party name "Democrat" and won a seat on the City Council. He misspelled his name again this year.

Technology Blamed for Eaglelink Failure

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is among the most advanced things in the whole country," German said. "And we did find a way for it to work through email. It was a great sign that the institution was dedicated to the students."

Regardless of when grades were finally bestowed upon eager students, much of the student body found the grade delay disheartening.

"It was kind of annoying," junior Rola Abimureched said. "They sort of should of thought about that."

"I was really frustrated," senior Amelia Rose said. "I thought it was my sister's computer that had the problem, but then I realized it was the Office of the Registrar. They do a thousand job with great aplomb."

Senior and Butler Photo Editor Juliette Gomez and senior Joseph Thornhill took the grade delay especially hard.

"I was pissed," Gomez said. "For like a period of like a week I was aimlessly wandering around."

"I was terrified," Senior Thornhill said. "I didn't know if maybe my grades were lost and the school dropped me from enrollment, ultimately erasing my college career, forever."

Abbot said that the emailing of grades will most likely continue until the college's mainframe computer is replaced, allowing more students to access Eaglelink at once.

"It's very important that we replace the current mainframe," she said. "The current machine is probably six years old, and because it is at the end of its lifecycle, we cannot upgrade things like memory or disk space."

According to Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Rick Hurley, the new mainframe would be fully implemented in about two and a half years at a cost of about \$4 million, which includes training, hardware, software, licensing for the software, and consulting from the vendor.

German said that the new mainframe will allow the students' administrative needs to run much smoother.

"Instead of having to tell four different departments that you're changing your address, you can simply update it in the system," German said. "You'll also be able to pay bills and collect money. It will also improve advising drastically by allowing students to make sure they have the classes they need to graduate."

Sunken Road Parking Entrance To Close When Alvey Drive Reopens This Semester

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solve the problem and reopen the road, the construction company is keying the landscape back to correct the diminished slope that had been supporting the road. This involves refurbishing the slope and adding a retaining wall near the road to ensure stability.

Charles Whipkey, assistant professor of Geology, said, "The erosion could have created what's called a slumping effect. This happens when water from runoff and other sources deteriorate the soil. In this instance it looks like it could have created a hole under the road, making it unstable."

Haley Builders is in charge of fixing the slope as well as constructing the new fitness center in front of Goodrick Hall. According to Chris Taylor, project manager, the project should be completed by early spring.

"We want to get it fixed soon, as it's a major artery into the resident parking lots. When it's finished we will close the entrance at Sunken Road, as there have

been complaints from the residents that live there about traffic along the road," Wittenmuth said.

Sunken Road is a residential street that runs parallel to Alvey Drive and offers another outlet for the resident parking lot.

Heather Cohen, a Sunken Road resident, said "They've been working on that road for almost two years. It's not that big of a deal to me that the students use Sunken Road, just that some of them turn the wrong way on a one-way street. I hope it's done soon, but as it's just temporary, I guess it's okay."

However, students want the road finished soon.

"They need to get that job finished," said senior Tammy Thomas. "With the Goodrick lot gone there is no parking anywhere. I have to arrive at school at 7:30 a.m. just to find parking for my 9:00 a.m. class."

According to the original college press release, the construction should be done by April 2003.

"When its finished we will close the entrance at Sunken Road, as there have been complaints from the residents that live there about traffic along the road."

John Wittenmuth

www.thebulletonline.com

Viewpoints

your opinions

Editorial Eaglelink

The College's attempt at posting grades on Eaglelink failed, but it wasn't their fault. It was the fault of poor planning. As any one of the students could have told the Office of the Registrar, they should have expected all 4,000 students to log in as soon as grades were posted. The Office knew the college mainframe couldn't handle that many hits. So why did they switch from paper reports to Eaglelink without a backup plan?

We realize budget cuts necessitate some changes, but only as long as the changes are functional. Otherwise, it is irresponsible. Withholding grades from students caused frustration for many, especially those who needed to apply for internships, scholarships, or jobs.

A better plan would have made the transition more gradually so that if the new system failed, the old one would still be in place. The Registrar's Office had enough foresight to do this when Mary Washington College started using Eaglelink to register for classes; they should have had enough foresight to do it for grades.

Diversity Ed

According to the Princeton Review's 2003 edition of "The Best 345 Colleges," Mary Washington College is ranked number one in the category of the most racially homogeneous school in the country.

Obviously it is no surprise that a school with a 12 percent population of minority students would be considered racially homogeneous, but it is definitely shocking news that we are the leaders of the pack.

However, it is important to note that even though there are few students of color enrolled, the college does do its best to bring diversity to campus through a number of events. The school funds clubs such as the Asian Students Association, who put together events like "The Taste of Asia."

Also, the largest event on campus, the Multicultural Fair, is a celebration of diversity and benefits all students, not just minorities.

Unfortunately, with statistics such as that of the Princeton Review, it is easy to overlook the College's efforts to bring together different cultures for the sake of diversifying the college. This leads to a decrease in the desire of minority students to come here, leaving the minority population stagnant.

the Bullet

www.thebulletonline.com

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City \$25 Richer Thanks To MWC Police

JUSTIN HARCUM
Guest Columnist

Bitching and complaining about parking at Mary Washington College, everyone is sick of the same arguments. I am told, "Quit beating a dead horse!" Well to hell with that and to hell with the commuter parking situation as it currently stands! The absurd and ridiculous has been reduced to the mundane and to common knowledge: parking sucks.

The first flaw lies in the simple logistics of accommodating commuters. This sad affair begins with the handing out of free passes as if there's no tomorrow, with each extra slip valued that much less by the next free one issued.

This all due to its lack of actual parking spatial backing and the mindlessness behind the action. I'm baffled at this. I have 50 bucks in my checking account, but let me go ahead and write checks for a couple months rent, a bar tab, an electricity bill, hell, maybe even some pay-per-view movies. It works at MWC, why not for Cox Cable?

I ponder, perhaps what truly allows these people to sleep at night is their justification. Fat chance of that. I regret to say that I cannot help but laugh at their attempt to hide the entire belly of this problematic organization behind a tiny sentence in a black and white motor vehicle pamphlet that everyone receives, laughs at its dullness and quickly discards before even slapping the parking sticker on their bumper.

I can almost hear it: "We in authority can basically say, tough luck," simply because of an italicized sentence on the bottom of page five of

a 10-page pamphlet. It reads, "The College does not guarantee parking spaces will always be available."

Perhaps it should read, "Parking spots are usually never available, and we will make sure that if you attempt to make it to class on time (which is your reason for attending this place and for budgeting the money for us to even exist) we will do everything within our resolve to punish you through pink coupons that reduce the size of your wallet." That statement should be on the cover in bold—they can leave the italics. This completely dehumanizes the entire system.

Now with all this I'm perplexed. Being a senior at the college, I have endured commuting for two years, been beaten severely in the parking race almost every damn morning, not from lack of effort or tardiness but due to lack of actual rectangles on the side of the road.

I use discretion after my many parking defeats, retreating as far as necessary from the actual campus to park in areas not directly in front of houses, at least a block away and on streets only where no sign openly prevents parking.

Oh, but this is not enough for the ever bitter and vengeful MWC ticket issuers. I return from class to find a ticket issued from MWC Police compounded by the fact that I cannot contest it to MWC. Instead, I have to take on the City of

Fredericksburg, and might I add that during the Civil War, the entire Union Army attempted this feat and failed miserably. It doesn't look good for me.

Never mind that there were zero spots available. Never mind that it was at least two or three blocks from campus. Never mind that there were no signs restricting parking. Never mind that the local residents made no verbal complaint. Never mind that the City of Fredericksburg did not deem my \$25 infraction to be of any importance where they might issue the ticket instead. MWC Police still, in all their wisdom, found justification and slapped one of their feminine-colored power slips on the hood of my barely running transport.

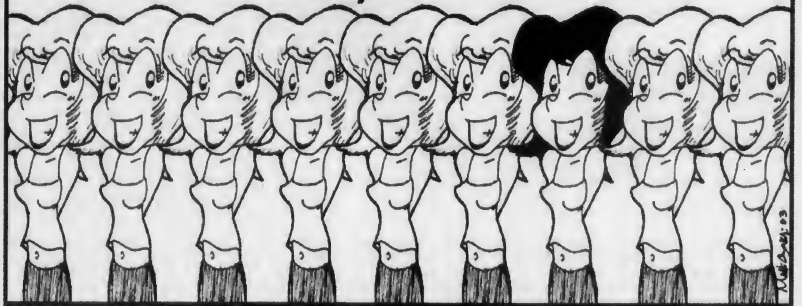
I can only imagine the scene. "Let's charge him since he is a student and doesn't have any means of income, then let him take it up with the bureaucracy and red tape of the General District Court," says the ticket issuer as he/she snickers and runs away like a ticklish schoolgirl.

At the very least, I should have the right to contest the agency which issued me the ticket. Let me, on behalf of the City of Fredericksburg, thank Mary Washington College for enhancing the city's treasury by \$25. Like a sheep I paid, and I hope not one penny finds its way back to this college.

Justin Harcum is a senior.

"I have to take on the City of Fredericksburg, and might I add that during the Civil War, the entire Union Army attempted this feat and failed miserably. It doesn't look good for me."

Diversity At MWC



Letters to the Editor

'Bigots, Ignorant And Intolerant'

Dear Editor:

The response to Rita Thompson's appointment as the new Assistant Dean of Admissions ("Faculty Debate Hire Of New Admissions Employee," Nov. 14) is ridiculous! Do Stephen Watkins and the other faculty members opposing Ms. Thompson's appointment realize how hypocritical they are? They are doing exactly what they are afraid Ms. Thompson will do. They are judging her on her values and beliefs instead of her accomplishments and qualifications.

I thought Mary Washington College prided itself on diversity. I guess that pride doesn't encompass conservative or Christian values. I shouldn't be surprised. Today's culture tells us we should embrace ideas from every culture, country and cause, unless of course those ideas come from Christians or conservatives. Then we label them bigots, ignorant and intolerant.

A few weeks ago *The Bullet* published an article by one of MWC's professors that basically said the United States was responsible for the 9/11 attacks. Now I'm sure a lot of students and faculty members didn't agree with his position but I didn't hear or read anything that questioned his ability to be an effective teacher. Why should Ms. Thompson be treated any differently? Let her performance determine how she is thought of, not her values or beliefs.

Think about it. How would the MWC community react if some of our faculty opposed Ms. Thompson's appointment because she supported the gay and lesbian rights movement? Oh, that's right. We would have labeled them bigots, ignorant, and intolerant!

Matt Neff is a senior.

Army Stint Doesn't Mean Citizenship

Dear Editor:

In the Nov. 14 issue of *The Bullet*, I found an article about Professor Rallis, a Mary Washington College professor who "finally" got his US citizenship after a year ("Professor Gets U.S. Citizenship—Finally!"). Believe it or not, I have had even greater problems with the Immigration and Naturalization Service. I gladly second the opinion that "the [INS] seems to see its job as putting obstacles in the way of people seeking U.S. citizenship."

I have been in this country for 16 years. The first time I applied for citizenship was with my father when I was 14. My father paid the necessary fees for both of us, but when it came time to be sworn in I was told to wait in the back of the court. My father left that day with his certificate. I got nothing.

My senior year of high school I decided to file again. Once more I paid the \$190 fee, filled out the forms and waited. I have been called in to have my fingerprints "updated" (as if they change), yet no word on my citizenship. In 1998 I joined the US Army. I was told that this would

▼ see INS, page 1

Bullet Letter and Editorial Policy

The Bullet is always eager to receive letters to the editor and guest columns, and every effort is made to print them. If there are numerous letters on one subject, a sampling of the best letters will be selected.

Letters should be typed, double-spaced, and submitted the Monday before publication. All letters and columns are subject to editing for length and clarity. Letters should be no longer than 300 words, and columns should not exceed 700 words. *The Bullet* reserves the right to withhold libelous material.

The Bullet does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, disability, national origin, political affiliation, marital status, sex, age or sexual orientation.

The Bullet will not publish anonymous letters or columns. All letters must be signed, and a phone number and address must be included to facilitate verification of authorship of the letter. Letters and columns can be mailed to *The Bullet* at 1701 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA, 22401-4666, delivered to our office in Seabrook Hall or sent to our email address at bullet@mwc.edu.

Opinions expressed in columns or letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Bullet* staff. The staff editorial represents the opinions of *The Bullet* editorial board and not necessarily those of the college, student body or entire *Bullet* staff.

Police Beat



By PORTSIA SMITH
Assistant News Editor

Dec. 3—At 11:38 p.m., a student in Bushnell Hall reported being harassed by a visitor who refused to leave. Lee McNeal, 22, of Chillicothe, Ohio was escorted off campus and issued a trespass warning.

Dec. 5—Between Dec. 1 and 5, Unknown suspects removed \$20 worth of quarters and a plastic cup from a vehicle parked in Battlegrounds parking lot. The vehicle was left unlocked. The case is under investigation.

Dec. 5—A vehicle parked in the Battlegrounds parking lot was vandalized. The driver side door lock was damaged and the paint around the lock was scratched. There was no sign of entry and damage was estimated at \$250. The case is under investigation.

Dec. 7—Between Dec. 6 and 7, the right side window was broken and a RCA portable CD player, valued at \$100, was stolen from a vehicle parked in the Battlegrounds parking lot. Damages were estimated at \$200. The case is under investigation.

Dec. 11—At 4:25 p.m., Mari Beth Gaffner, 22, of Burke, and Clyde Conklin Jr., 34, of Alexandria, were selling pictures inside of Jepson Hall. They had not received a vending permit from the college and both were escorted off campus and issued a trespass warning.

Dec. 15—A male sophomore student in Randolph Hall was found in possession of vodka. The alcohol was confiscated and the student was referred to administration.

Dec. 13—Unknown suspects tried to burn a bulletin board on the third floor of Bushnell Hall. There was minimal damage. The case is under investigation.

Jan. 5—A stolen car from Fredericksburg was found in Orange County, Fla. The license plate on the car belonged to the Mary Washington College Foundation. The Foundation was aware that the plates were missing and had filed for new plates. A suspect was arrested and being held in Florida on other charges.

Jan. 10—Around 5:15 p.m., campus police observed two suspicious males parked in a vehicle in the Battlegrounds parking lot. As the police came closer the individuals began to sink down in their seats. The officer saw open alcohol containers and smelled the odor of marijuana. Jerry Benfield, 22, of Fredericksburg and Craig Hughes, 25, of Spotsylvania were arrested for possession of marijuana. They were both released on summons and are pending court.

Jan. 13—Around 3 p.m., Damien Haussling, 31, of no fixed address was seen inside of Woodard Campus Center. He was already barred from campus and was arrested for trespassing. He spent five days in jail.

Jan. 14—At 10:08 p.m., three underage male students were found in possession of numerous cans of alcohol. The alcohol was confiscated. The students were referred to administration.

Jan. 20—A search warrant was obtained to look for stolen property in the Fredericksburg hotel room of Damien Haussling, 31, of no fixed address. Over 700 CDs were found, some belonging to Mary Washington College students. Haussling was arrested for possession of stolen property and is being held at Rappahannock Regional Jail on a \$2,000 bond.



Pick 'n Save Gets Picky

OAK CREEK, Wis.—Don Meyer only wanted some non-alcoholic beer. Instead, he got carded. Most alcoholic-beverage retailers card people who look like they're under 30 or 40, reported the Associated Press, but Meyer wasn't going for it. Not only was his beverage non-alcoholic, he is 76 years old. "I tell you I was really ticked off—this little-by-little chipping away at your rights," Meyer says. Pick 'n Save officials say that they will now card everyone regardless of age. "We've had a few complaints," says Robert Mariano, president and chief executive officer of Pick 'n Save's parent company, Roundy's Inc. "People may not like it but they understand what we are trying to do. We're just trying to do the right thing."

Travel Light—Fly Naked!

MIAMI—A 172-seat Boeing 747 will definitely have to keep the shades down for this flight. The flight from Miami to Cancun will be a "clothing optional" flight, according to the Associated Press. Castaways Travel, a travel agency that specializes in clothing-optional vacations, will be providing the world's first nude flight to Cancun, where passengers will stay at a nudist resort for a week. "People are looking for stress relief," says Castaways co-owner Jim Bailey. "In a nudist environment, everyone is the same." The \$499 flight will include a fully-clothed staff, towels on the chairs, and a noticeable lack of hot drinks and food.

Fake Owl Causes Hoots of Confusion

RACINE, Wis.—Instead of being worried, Angie Anderson laughed in the face of the zoo official who knacked on her door to inform her that he would be trying to catch the wild owl in her front yard. Officials at the Racine zoo and the state Department of Natural Resources couldn't figure out why the apparently injured animal wasn't moving, reported the Associated Press. Anderson informed the official that she had the answer he was seeking—the bird is a fake. She even pulled the bird out of the ground to show him the metal poles holding it up. A DNR warden took the bird away to test its feathers, and then suggested to Anderson that she leave the bird inside. "I put it right back there when I got it back," said Anderson. She did, however put up a sign for concerned passersby to read: "This is not a real owl."

Winners of Spelling Bees Need Not Apply

CHARLESTON, W.Va.—Education may be a platform for most political candidates, but several politicians seem to have fallen off the bandwagon. The official filing forms in the city clerk's office in Charleston show that some candidates decided to invent new political parties for themselves, reported the Associated Press. Among these were "Democrat," "Democrat," "Republican," and "Republican." "I was kind of rushed," said Republican challenger Al Carey. "I was rushed," said Democrat Dana Griffith. "I was trying to beat the deadline; I didn't even pay any attention to it. I was in a big hurry." It doesn't seem to have an impact on their popularity though. Fred Pettry spelled his party name "Democrat" and won a seat on the City Council. He misspelled his name again this year.

It's Official! MWC Not Diverse

PRINCETON, page 1

their own school's students' campus life and student body is so different from ours, politics, and opinions. The surveys are conducted on campuses on paper and electronically.

One question on the survey was, "Is your student body made up of diverse race and ethnic types?"

"In the case of Mary Washington College, the majority of the students who opted to take the survey answered no to this question. That was the biggest factor why we ranked them as the number one homogeneous school in the country," said Jeanne Krieger, assistant editor at Princeton Review Books.

Grove City College, Ohio State University-Columbus, Susquehanna University, and the Webb Institute rounded out the top five homogeneous schools in the country according to the 2003 edition of "The Best 345 Colleges."

Debra Schiele, assistant professor of Sociology whose teaching areas include racial and ethnic minorities, said that the lack of minorities on campus is not necessarily the college's fault.

"I guess my main feeling from a sociological perspective is that we'd have to not only focus on MWC per se, but on schools like it. That is to say, it isn't solely MWC's fault or necessarily the fault of individuals who work here, but certainly this campus, like others like it, is a chilly climate for students of color," Schiele said.

Schiele also felt that special scholarships and mentoring would be useful for minority students but that they must be used carefully.

"MWC would have to be careful not ghettoizing students of color by giving them special scholarships. Ultimately, the burden should be on all faculty, and students to make this a safe and comfortable place for students of color," Schiele said.

Blair said that there are not any special scholarships at the college specifically aimed at minorities and that all scholarships are based on need and merit and that minorities are given scholarships if qualified.

According to Blair, Mary Washington College participates in a number of both on and off campus programs that involve the recruitment of minority students.

"The Admissions Office works year round recruiting minorities. We travel to a number of high schools in northern Virginia, Washington D.C., Baltimore, and the Virginia Beach area where there are a high number of minority students enrolled in those schools in efforts to get Mary Washington's name out in the open," Blair said.

Blair also said that the Admissions Office coordinates Celebrating Cultural Diversity Weekend every April. This allows minority students who have already been offered admission to the college to participate in events such as the Multicultural Fair so that these prospective

students get a first hand look at the student body.

The Office of Admissions also participates in a program called the National Scholarship Search for Negro Students, which organizes college fairs targeted exclusively for African-Americans.

"These programs have helped raise the total diversity of Mary Washington's campus. In the past two years, the number of incoming freshmen who are minorities has risen from 10 to 12 percent," Blair said.

Gregory said that Mary Washington College participates in many of the same minority recruitment stages that U.Va. does, including traveling to high schools with a high minority population and the National Scholarship Search for Negro Students. However, most of U.Va.'s minority recruitment comes from a branch within their Admissions Office called the Outreach Office.

"The mission of the Outreach Office is to welcome students from underrepresented groups to The University of Virginia. To help students compete successfully in the admission process and U.Va. and to give students general advice about finding a college that will help them reach their potential and achieve their dreams," said Gregory, director of The Outreach Office at U.Va.

The James Farmer Multicultural Center at MWC, a service much like the Outreach Office at U.Va., focuses on promoting racial diversity on Mary Washington College's campus.

"The Multicultural Center strives to facilitate students' learning and personal development, including that of the under-represented groups, by increasing student awareness and knowledge of diversity issues that frame both the individual and the community," said Annetta Vashee, director of the James Farmer Multicultural Center.

According to Gretta Franklin, multicultural student counselor at the James Farmer Multicultural Center, race is too much of an issue at the college.

"I get a chance to talk with many minority students on campus and some of them feel that race is the only thing that defines them. For instance, in a class of 40 or so there may be only one or two minority students in the entire room and they sometimes feel as if they are only seen as the black girl or the Asian girl and not as a normal member or the student body," Franklin said.

College officials said they feel that the ranking The Princeton Review gave is not that important to the college's overall ranking.

"You have to remember that The Princeton Review is only one of many publications that rank colleges and we are not recognized as the least diverse by the majority of them," Blair said.

The Princeton Review's rankings of Mary Washington College and the other 345 best colleges in the country may be found at www.princetonreview.com.

Technology Blamed for Eaglelink Failure

EAGLELINK, page 1

is among the most advanced things in the whole country," German said. "And we did find a way for it to work through email. It was a great sign that the institution was dedicated to the students."

Regardless of when grades were finally bestowed upon eager students, much of the student body found the grade delay disheartening.

"It was kind of annoying," junior Rola Abinour said. "They sort of should of thought about that."

"I was really frustrated," senior Annelise Rose said. "I thought it was my sister's computer that had the problem, but then I realized it was the Office of the Registrar. They do a thankless job with great aplomb."

Senior and Bulletin Photo Editor Juliette Gomez and senior Joseph Thornhill took the grade delay especially hard.

"I was pissed," Gomez said. "For like a period of like a week I was aimlessly wandering around."

"I was terrified," Senior Thornhill said. "I didn't know if maybe my grades were lost and the school dropped me from enrollment, ultimately erasing my college career, forever."

Abbot said that the emailing of grades will most likely continue until the college's mainframe computer is replaced, allowing more students to access Eaglelink at once.

"It's very important that we replace the current mainframe," she said. "The current machine is probably six years old, and because it is at the end of its lifecycle, we cannot upgrade things like memory or disk space."

According to Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Rick Hurley, the new mainframe would be fully implemented in about two and a half years at a cost of about \$4 million, which includes training, hardware, software, licensing for the software, and consulting from the vendor.

German said that the new mainframe will allow the students' administrative needs to run much smoother.

"Instead of having to tell four different departments that you're changing your address, you can simply update it in the system," German said. "You'll also be able to pay bills and collect money. It will also improve advising drastically by allowing students to make sure they have the classes they need to graduate."

Sunken Road Parking Entrance To Close When Alvey Drive Reopens This Semester

ALVEY, page 1

solve the problem and reopen the road, the construction company is keying the landscape back to correct the diminished slope that had been supporting the road. This involves refurbishing the slope and adding a retaining wall near the road to ensure stability."

Charles Whipkey, assistant professor of Geology, said, "The erosion could have created what's called a slumping effect. This happens when water from runoff and other sources deteriorate the soil. In this instance it looks like it could have created a hole under the road, making it unstable."

Haley Builders is in charge of fixing the slope as well as constructing the new fitness center in front of Goolrick Hall. According to Chris Taylor, project manager, the project should be completed by early spring.

"We want to get it fixed soon, as it's a major artery into the resident parking lots. When it's finished we will close the entrance at Sunken Road, as there have

been complaints from the residents that live there about traffic along the road," Wiltenmuth said.

Sunken Road is a residential street that runs parallel to Alvey Drive and offers another outlet for the resident parking lot.

Heather Cohen, a Sunken Road resident, said "They've been working on that road for almost two years. It's not that big of a deal to me that the students use Sunken Road, just that some of them turn the wrong way on a one-way street. I hope it's done soon, but as it's just temporary, I guess it's okay."

However, students want the road finished soon.

"They need to get that job finished," said senior Tammy Thomas. "With the Goolrick lot gone there is no parking anywhere. I have to arrive at school at 7:30 a.m. just to find parking for my 9:00 a.m. class."

According to the original college press release, the construction should be done by April 2003.

"When its finished we will close the entrance at Sunken Road, as there have been complaints from the residents that live there about traffic along the road."

John Wiltenmuth

www.thebulletonline.com

Viewpoints

your opinions

FAST FACT:

Craving cigarette butts or ice may mean you have an iron deficiency.

Editorial Eaglestink

The College's attempt at posting grades on Eaglelink failed, but it wasn't their fault. It was the fault of poor planning. As any one of the students could have told the Office of the Registrar, they should have expected all 4,000 students to log in as soon as grades were posted. The Office knew the college mainframe couldn't handle that many hits. So why did they switch from paper reports to Eaglelink without a backup plan?

We realize budget cuts necessitate some changes, but only as long as the changes are functional. Otherwise, it is irresponsible. Withholding grades from students caused frustration for many, especially those who needed to apply for internships, scholarships, or jobs.

A better plan would have made the transition more gradually so that if the new system failed, the old one would still be in place. The Registrar's Office had enough foresight to do this when Mary Washington College started using Eaglelink to register for classes; they should have had enough foresight to do it for grades.

Diversity Ed

According to the Princeton Review's 2003 edition of "The Best 345 Colleges," Mary Washington College is ranked number one in the category of the most racially homogenous school in the country.

Obviously it is no surprise that a school with a 12 percent population of minority students would be considered racially homogenous, but it is definitely shocking news that we are the leaders of the pack.

However, it is important to note that even though there are few students of color enrolled, the college does do its best to bring diversity to campus through a number of events. The school funds clubs such as the Asian Students Association, who put together events like "The Taste of Asia."

Also, the largest event on campus, the Multicultural Fair, is a celebration of diversity and benefits all students, not just minorities.

Unfortunately, with statistics such as that of the Princeton Review, it is easy to overlook the College's efforts to bring together different cultures for the sake of diversifying the college. This leads to a decrease in the desire of minority students to come here, leaving the minority population stagnant.

City \$25 Richer Thanks To MWC Police

JUSTIN HARCUM
Guest Columnist

Bitching and complaining about parking at Mary Washington College, everyone is sick of the same arguments. I am told, "Quit beating a dead horse!" Well to hell with that and to hell with the commuter parking situation as it currently stands! The absurd and ridiculous has been reduced to the mundane and to common knowledge; parking sucks.

The first flaw lies in the simple logistics of accommodating commuters. This sad affair begins with the handing out of free passes as if there's no tomorrow, with each extra slip valued that much less by the next free one issued.

This all due to its lack of actual parking spatial backing and the mindlessness behind the action. I'm baffled at this. I have 50 bucks in my checking account, but let me go ahead and write checks for a couple months rent, a bar tab, an electricity bill, hell, maybe even some pay-per-view movies. It works at MWC, why not for Cox Cable?

I ponder, perhaps what truly allows these people to sleep at night is their justification. Fat chance of that. I regret to say that I cannot help but laugh at their attempt to hide the entire belly of this problematic organization behind a tiny sentence in a black and white motor vehicle pamphlet that everyone receives, laughs at its dullness and quickly discards before even slapping the parking sticker on their bumper.

I can almost hear it: "We in authority can basically say, tough luck," simply because of an italicized sentence on the bottom of page five of

a 10-page pamphlet. It reads, "The College does not guarantee parking spaces will always be available."

Perhaps it should read, "Parking spots are usually never available, and we will make sure that if you attempt to make it to class on time (which is your reason for attending this place and for budgeting the money for us to even exist) we will do everything within our resolve to punish you through pink coupons that reduce the size of your wallet." That statement should be on the cover in bold—they can leave the italics. This completely dehumanizes the entire system.

Now with all this I'm perplexed. Being a senior at the college, I have endured commuting for two years, been beaten severely in the parking race almost every damn morning, not from lack of effort or tardiness but due to lack of actual rectangles on the side of the road.

I use discretion after my many parking defeats, retreating as far as necessary from the actual campus to park in areas not directly in front of houses, at least a block away and on streets only where no sign openly prevents parking.

Oh, but this is not enough for the ever bitter and vengeful MWC ticket issuers. I return from class to find a ticket issued from MWC Police compounded by the fact that I cannot contest it to MWC. Instead, I have to take on the City of

Fredericksburg, and might I add that during the Civil War, the entire Union Army attempted this feat and failed miserably. It doesn't look good for me.

Never mind that there were zero spots available. Never mind that it was at least two or three blocks from campus. Never mind that there were no signs restricting parking. Never mind that the local residents made no verbal complaint. Never mind that the City of

Fredericksburg did not deem my \$25 infraction to be of any importance where they might issue the ticket instead. MWC Police still, in all their wisdom, found justification and slapped one of their feminine-colored power slips on the hood of my barely running transport.

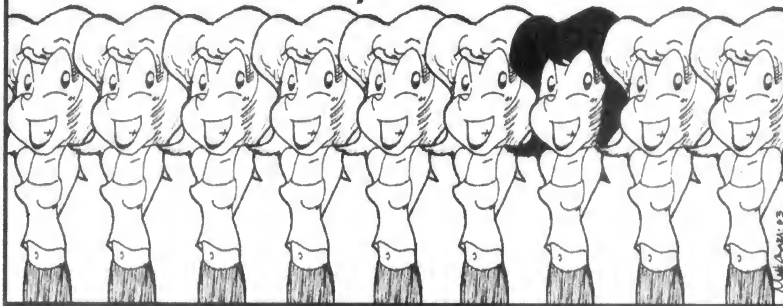
I can only imagine the scene. "Let's charge him since he is a student and doesn't have any means of income, then let him take it up with the bureaucracy and red tape of the General District Court," says the ticket issuer as he/she snickers and runs away like a ticklish schoolgirl.

At the very least, I should have the right to contest the agency which issued me the ticket. Let me, on behalf of the City of Fredericksburg, thank Mary Washington College for enhancing the city's treasury by \$25. Like a sheep I paid, and I hope not one penny finds its way back to this college.

Justin Harcum is a senior.

"I have to take on the City of Fredericksburg, and might I add that during the Civil War, the entire Union Army attempted this feat and failed miserably. It doesn't look good for me."

Diversity At MWC



Letters to the Editor

'Bigots, Ignorant And Intolerant'

Dear Editor:

The response to Rita Thompson's appointment as the new Assistant Dean of Admissions ("Faculty Debate Hire Of New Admissions Employee," Nov. 14) is ridiculous! Do Stephen Watkins and the other faculty members opposing Ms. Thompson's appointment realize how hypocritical they are? They are doing exactly what they are afraid Ms. Thompson will do. They are judging her on her values and beliefs instead of her accomplishments and qualifications.

I thought Mary Washington College prided itself on diversity. I guess that pride doesn't encompass conservative or Christian values. I shouldn't be surprised. Today's culture tells us we should embrace ideas from every culture, country and cause, unless of course those ideas come from Christians or conservatives. Then we label them bigots, ignorant and intolerant.

A few weeks ago The Bulletin published an article by one of MWC's professors that basically said the United States was responsible for the 9/11 attacks. Now I'm sure a lot of students and faculty members didn't agree with his position but I didn't hear or read anything that questioned his ability to be an effective teacher. Why should Ms. Thompson be treated any differently? Let her performance determine how she is thought of, not her values or beliefs.

Think about it. How would the MWC community react if some of our faculty opposed Ms. Thompson's appointment because she supported the gay and lesbian rights movement? Oh, that's right. We would have labeled them bigots, ignorant, and intolerant!

Man Neff is a senior.

Army Stint Doesn't Mean Citizenship

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see INS, page 11

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the Bulletin

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The Bulletin is published on Thursday afternoons during the fall and spring semesters. All decisions are made by the editorial board, independent of the Bulletin adviser.

Features

extras about people and places

Fast Fact:

Centuries ago, men were told that the evil effects of coffee would make them sterile; women were cautioned to avoid caffeine unless they wanted to be barren.

thumbs



to having classes on MLK day.



to Men's Basketball having a great season.



to people not dropping classes until it's too late to add them.



to the Foreign Film series this semester.



to Eaglelink being down during Add/Drop.



to Belle Wheelan speaking last Monday.

in the stars

Aries - As a joke, you should put an 8-foot-tall mucous-covered "egg" in your friend's basement. Then, when he or she goes down to do a load of laundry...

Taurus - Remember: it usually helps convince everyone you are right, if you jump up and down and yell.

Gemini - Uh oh, "Bursting into song day" again. Your friends will avoid you.

Cancer - You will discover a sure-fire method of fooling all people, all the time.

Leo - Good day to let your imagination soar. Tomorrow: imagining you're sore.

Virgo - Good day to use nautical terms in ordinary situations, and to refer to the different sides of your building as "port" and "starboard."

Libra - You might consider picking up some holy water and a few stout wooden stakes.

Scorpio - A hexapod robot will run away from its laboratory today, change its name to "Bob," and take up residence with you.

Sagittarius - Absolutely marvelous day to complain, grumble, gripe, or whine. Remember: if you're going to do something, do it well.

Capricorn - Today you can have lots of fun by beaming at people, and telling them how fresh your brand of soap makes you feel.

Aquarius - A very pudgy cat will annoy you today.

Pisces - You will have a hunch, today. Perhaps you should try a firmer mattress?

Student Seeks Stardom Invoice Member Auditions for 'American Idol'

By TOM BORAK
Staff Writer

Junior David Zedonek, 2002's Mr. Willard, is not your typical college student. You may have seen him working in the Washroom, bobbing his dark curls to some of his favorite tunes. You may have heard him on campus walk, singing to no one in particular, and everyone who is within earshot all at the same time. And, if you watched the first episode of "American Idol 2" on Tuesday, Jan. 21, you may have seen him on national television.

Contacted over the winter holiday by the show's producers, Zedonek was informed that segments of his audition would be aired on the first show of the new season.

Zedonek, a reality television fanatic and a member of two a cappella groups on campus, packed his bags last October for a shot at fame.

"I love what I do," Zedonek said. "I love performing, and I liked the show, so why not?"

On Monday, Oct. 28, Zedonek left for Nashville, Tenn. under a veil of secrecy, telling only his closest friends of his intentions. Upon arrival in the appropriately named music city, he got in line for auditions that were not scheduled until Wednesday.

"I waited for 34 hours in 40-50 degree weather, and about 10 hours of rain with only my backpack which held a change of clothes and a magazine," Zedonek said, who did not even inform his parents of his spontaneous venture.

Once the auditions began, Zedonek was placed in a group with four other "American Idol" hopefuls to perform for one of three producers for the show.

He dazzled the judges with his rendition of the Spin Doctors' hit, "Two Princes," a song he also sings on campus with the group Invoice.

"I chose it [the song] because it was upbeat and showed off my vocal abilities," he said. "I know it inside and out after practicing it so much, so I wasn't nervous in front of the camera. I also thought it was a song that no one else would audition with."



Photo Courtesy David Zedonek

Zedonek was called back. Realizing this also meant staying two more days, he finally called his family and informed them of his progress in the pursuit of his dream.

In his second audition, Zedonek performed "Boot Scootin' Boogie" for co-executive producer of the show, Nigel Lythgoe. He too enjoyed the performance, and sent Zedonek into the final round of auditions and a

"The judges did not criticize me vocally in any way, they all agreed that I had strong energy and personality, just not the one they were looking for."

After spending nearly \$300 on hotels, clothing, and food for the week, Zedonek said he returned to Mary Washington College with a new respect for Hollywood and the music industry in general. While happy to return to school, it was still a difficult process.

"The toughest part of coming back to reality at MWC was all of the 'what ifs' I kept asking myself," he said. "Should I have done a different song? Should I have calmed down a little? I finally decided that the greatest 'what if' is, 'What if I hadn't done it at all?'"

Zedonek said he is happy with his choice to pursue this goal. He does not negate the possibility that another attempt at the record industry may be looming in his future, but for now, he is content to sing on campus. You can see him performing with Invoice at the Bella Cappella invitational on February 1.

"American Idol 2" airs Tuesdays at 8 p.m. on the Fox Network.



Photo Courtesy David Zedonek

Top: Junior David Zedonek with two other contestants after his second audition for American Idol on Nov. 1.

Bottom: Junior David Zedonek listens to tunes.

"I waited for 34 hours in 40-50 degree weather."

David Zedonek

shot at going to Hollywood.

Of the 1,800 hopefuls, the count was now reduced to 65 and Zedonek would get his shot to sing in front of the cameras, lights, hosts, and judges of "American Idol 2."

After performing for Simon Cowell, Randy Jackson, and Paula Abdul, Zedonek said he was told that he would not be advancing to Hollywood for the final competition.

Seacobeck Receives Makeover

By BRIDGET MURPHY
Assistant Features-Editor



Peter Kelley/Bulletin

One of the new additions to the Rose Room.

As Mary Washington College students returned to campus on Jan. 15 to face a new semester of classes they also encountered additions to student facilities that occurred over the winter vacation. Seacobeck Dining Hall was one such transformation.

The dining hall, which had undergone renovations for about four or five years reached its final stages and was met mixed reviews by students.

"The changes are better aesthetically," said junior Chip McCraw, "but functional changes are what was needed."

Junior Andrew Oko agreed.

"It looks good, but efficiency didn't improve."

New features of the hall include new floors in both the Bistro and Diner rooms as well as new serving stations in these rooms. General Manager Peter Labrecque said that the renovations, which had been in the works for years, now allow all walls to have the hot and cold capabilities that they lacked in the past. Electrical as well as plumbing fixtures were updated to improve safety.

"We've modernized the facility to bring it into light years," said Labrecque.

According to Labrecque the new serving stations will offer a wider range of foods to satisfy students who crave variety.

"The Bistro will feature 'make your own pasta' stations and the pastas served will change daily," Labrecque said.

Included in this variety are entrees such as shrimp scampi and Greek pasta. The Diner's new Rotisserie station will feature meats such as roast turkey, rotisserie chicken, flank steak, ham, leg of lamb and meatloaf.

The Breakfast 101 station is back due to the continued support of students. Breakfast 101 includes crepes, waffles, eggs, omelets and French toast.

The salad bars offer an upgraded selection of greens as well as labels healthy eating suggestions.

Labrecque said that he relies on proactive students to pull the menu together. In fact two new features were student suggestions.

"We had a student suggest that we remove the first row of tables nearest to the salad bar in the Bistro to allow for more room, which they did," he said.

Labrecque said he is always interested in feedback whether it is positive or negative.

"We developed a scatter system. During big pushes it does not work as well as I would have liked, but the lines diminish quicker."

According to Labrecque, trays and plates were moved into the room to foster a "no-line" mentality.

"For the most part it goes pretty quick," said Labrecque.

Senior Lawton Clites commented on the new lines.

"It's kind of fun, the zigzag makes the line easy."

Renovations in Seacobeck are virtually complete except for some artwork that has yet to be installed into the South Market room. Labrecque said. Atlantic Supplies designed the renovations, which were part of Mary Washington College's contract with The Wood Labrecque said.

see SEACOBEEK, page 5

Students Head South For The Winter

By ANNA NOLEN

Staff Writer

On Dec. 15, some students like senior Jenny Worcester went home for winter break with one word in mind: sleep.

"I slept pretty much the entire month. I did so much work, I had to sleep off the semester," she said.

However, getting a lot of sleep was not on every student's agenda.

Several students found more dynamic ways to spend their time off like *Bullet* staff writer and senior Darielle Smolian.

"I spent New Years in the penthouse of an upper eastside apartment building in New York City," she said. "The lights and the view were awesome."

Amongst the city lights and nightlife was where senior Christina Worrell also found herself spending time over break.

Worrell said she flew to the cajun capital of the U.S., New Orleans, where people litter the streets, jazz floods the bars and clubs and catches the ears of passers-by, traveling bands stop to play music on the sidewalks, and you can eat the infamous Lucky Dog hotdogs.

Worrell described some of the interesting things and people she saw while she was there. She said

that one day she and a friend were walking down the street, and were stopped by an older gentleman wearing a number pinned to his pants and a gold medal around his neck.

"He asked me if I wanted to race. I've never seen so many odd things and people before," she said.

"We sat in the sun, drank margaritas and gambled the nights away."

Ashley Racine

She then described a street performer that was painted completely white, and clad in white gothic attire, while she stood perfectly still until one put money in her box. The angelic figure then rested her hands in a praying position, bowed, and

returned to her original stance, perfectly still, opposite the movement going on around her.

While in New Orleans, she had the opportunity to visit the home of author Anne Rice and the location of "Real World: New Orleans," the Belfort mansion.

Another unique sight Worrell was able to visit was the Lafayette Cemetery, where each grave is above ground. The city of New Orleans is below sea level and prone to flooding and to keep the graves from rising they must be above ground.

"I absolutely had the time of my life. New Orleans was not what I expected. It looks a lot

like Richmond or D.C., but has a much different personality, and by the way it was very cold there too," Worrell said.

Quite opposite the winter cold were the sunny, warm, white beaches to which senior Sabrena Pagani traveled for her break. She spent seven days of her vacation cruising around the Eastern Caribbean.

"We went to Catalina, St. Thomas, Puerto Rico, and Nassau, where I was able to snorkel for the first time," Pagani said. "The beaches don't have seaweed or anything. It was very different because I am from Connecticut."

She saw the El Yunque rain forest in Puerto Rico, where alongside the trees, exotic birds canopy the rainforest ceiling.

"It was really cool because it was actually raining, and the trees acted as a shelter," Pagani said.

Several other students spent time relaxing on the beaches of the Bahamas. Seniors Brandy Nelson, Ashley Racine, and Erin Moffett journeyed to the Bahamas for three days.

"We sat in the sun, drank margaritas, and gambled the nights away. It was actually quite relaxing believe it or not," Racine said.

They came back with their hair dressed in beads and braids.

Although not all students were able to do something quite this exciting over break, many were able to enjoy the time away from the monotony of student life, classrooms, and homework.



Photo Courtesy Christina Worrell

Senior Christina Worrell in front of the Belfort mansion in New Orleans.

Students React to a New Dining Hall Experience



Peter Kelley/Bullet

The new "Hometown" section of the Rose Room.

SEACOCK, page 5

Company, which supplies food to the dining hall. According to Labrecque, roughly \$225,000 was issued for the renovations, which will also cover some changes to be made in the Eagles Nest this summer.

Plans for the Eagles Nest include deli line expansion as well as an open-air self-serve sandwich station. A coffee program for the Nest is also in the works.

Labrecque said that thus far he has received mostly positive responses to Seacobeck's new looks.

"Employee morale and attitude is uplifted," he said. "They are proud about going about their operations."

"The renovations make cleaning a lot easier," said student manager and *Bullet* staff member Lindsay Beaton. "It's more organized although it doesn't seem like it right now. We have to sort of train people because things are in different places."

While most students enjoy the changes, others had minor complaints.

"I don't like [the renovations] because I can't see the clock in the Rose room," junior Emily Dilger said. "But I like the floor."

For the most part, students enjoyed the new look of the dining hall, but certain changes will take some getting used to.

"The renovations are great when you're able to beat the crowd, but when the six o'clock dinner time rolls around, it's easy to feel a bit frustrated," junior Susan Deedrick said. "The first night I went there, it was so chaotic I couldn't even find the plates."

Junior Shep Shapard had similar complaints. "I always forget to get silverware because it's not next to the trays," he said.

Even with a bit of confusion the manager has seen a definite influx of students attending the dining hall. Regardless of minor complaints, Labrecque said he has noted a "wow factor" on the faces of students viewing the rooms for the first time. Bon appetite!

Classifieds

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the
Bullet

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Remember:

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Sports

the latest athletic news and information

schedule

Men's Basketball

Jan. 25: at Salisbury University
Jan. 29: vs. Goucher College

Women's Basketball

Jan. 25: at Salisbury University
Jan. 28: vs. Goucher College

Men's Swimming

Jan. 24: at Johns Hopkins U.
Feb. 1: vs. Howard University

Women's Swimming

Jan. 24: at Johns Hopkins U.
Feb. 1: vs. Howard University

scores

Men's Basketball

Jan. 18: St. Mary's College
W 84-74

Women's Basketball

Jan. 18: St. Mary's College
L 64-40

Men's Swimming

Jan. 18: Gettysburg College
W 105-100

Women's Swimming

Jan. 18: Gettysburg College
L 134-71

athlete of the week

Ian Sumers Men's Basketball

Freshman guard came off the bench to score 16 points against St. Mary's.

Men's Basketball Victorious Again, Defeats St. Mary's, 84-74

By PAM KRAMER
Assistant Sports Editor

In Michael Jordan fashion, senior Cris Hairston, number twenty-three, slam dunked the ball over a stunned St. Mary's player shortly in the second half as the men's squad added another win to their record Saturday afternoon.

Five players reached double figures to the delight of the 900 plus fans at Goodrick Gymnasium as the 21 ranked Mary Washington College men's team defeated St. Mary's College, 84-74, to improve their record to 12-2 and 3-1 in the Capital Athletic Conference.

Coming off a big loss to conference rival Catholic University, coach Rod Wood said he thought this is a huge win for the Eagles.

"I don't think we played real well, but we came out with a victory and that's important," Wood said of his squad.

Losing to only Shenandoah University and Catholic, MWC is on its way to an impressive record breaking season. Leading the way for the Eagles is forward Hairston, with a 50 percent shooting average. Hairston contributed eight points in the win over St. Mary's. However, the Eagles are strong all around, with five players contributing over 10 points, including two players off the bench. Freshman Ian Sumers and junior Erik Rodriguez led MWC in scoring with 16 points apiece. Sophomore Jon Hurd stepped up with 14, while junior Evan Fowler had 12 points. Brett Lively added 10 for MWC as well.



Sophomore Jon Hurd, senior Cris Hairston, junior Evan Fowler and junior Erik Rodriguez gather around men's basketball coach Rod Wood during a timeout.

"On any given night we have people that can put up points. We can get the ball to anyone and they can score," Hairston said of his teammates.

With senior and starting forward Dan Dupras out after the first minute with a torn groin muscle, the Eagles stepped up the intensity and were never down through the first half.

"Every game from here on out is tough, given that every team in our conference is good from top to bottom. Since we lost one of our starters from

the beginning of the night, we had players off the bench who really stepped it up," Hairston said.

The game was close throughout, but St. Mary's was able to tie the score with 5:32 remaining. However, the Eagles came back ahead 75-65 with 1:36 to go. The Seahawks came back to within seven, but that was the closest they came.

With five players scoring in the double digits, making 74 percent of their three point shots, it seems likely that this is the year

to go all the way for the Eagles. It is not going to come easily however."

"We need to take our team to another level, work harder in practice, and go hard every day. Those are things Catholic did and we need to do the same," Hairston said.

With a strong team all around, the Eagles are looking to the rest of the season to improve mostly on defense.

"In order to compete with them, we are adding a couple things into our defense," Wood said.

Training In The Off Season

Members Of The Baseball Team Share Their Stories

By CORY TEMPLEMAN
Assistant Sports Editor

The beaches of Cancun, a training room and a baseball camp run by a professional baseball player.

They are certainly not the most ideal places for college athletes to train in the off-season, but they did just fine for the Mary Washington College baseball team this winter.

After a five-week fall season in which the Eagles compiled a 5-0 record and postseason held strength training and conditioning workouts, winter break rolled around and members of the

baseball team somehow continued to get ready for the upcoming spring season.

In unorthodox fashion, of course. Senior outfielder Aaron Altscher's trip to Cancun this winter proved to be anything but jovial as he contracted an illness while visiting the warm weather paradise, but at least he remembered his baseball glove.

"Well, I got sick with the flu the first night so I basically had to spend the whole trip in bed. But I did manage to throw on the beaches of Cancun just to keep my arm in shape so that was nice," Altscher said.

Junior Chase Vogler, on the other

hand, spent his fall and winter in the training room at MWC getting ready for the upcoming season. Rotator cuff surgery prevented Vogler, a junior outfielder, from playing this past fall and limited his training for the spring season.

"I pretty much rehabbed all fall and winter but I tried to lift everyday to get a little stronger. Hopefully my arm will return to the way it was before I injured it," Vogler said.

Junior Sean Townsend's winter break not only gave him the opportunity to teach kids about the game of baseball, but he also learned a little something.

The senior pitcher worked the Michael

Cuddyer Baseball Camp in Chesapeake, Va. while at home and even got to workout a few times with Cuddyer, a former high school teammate of Townsend and current right fielder for the Minnesota Twins.

"I think it's important to teach kids at an early age who go to camps like that. Hearing Mike [Cuddyer] speak was motivational, and you certainly listen when a professional is talking. Plus I made a little money on the side working the camp," Townsend said.

Unconventional the methods may be, they got the job done for the Eagles baseball team this winter.

Swim Teams Stand Tough Against Gettysburg

Men's Team Tops Rivals For First Time In School History, 105-100

By KATE STACEY
Staff Writer

The Mary Washington College swim team faced Gettysburg College on Saturday as the men's team achieved a historic first-time win over the Bullets by the score of 105-100.

In the 200 fly, freshman Will Brunner (2:01:83) and junior Tim Jensen (2:02:77) took first and second place, respectively. The 400 medley relay team of juniors Scott Baker, Tim Jensen, Justin Snyder and freshman Bryan Stiffler won their event with a time of 3:40:06. Stiffler came in first in the 200 breast with a score of 2:18:52 while freshman Brian

Craddock placed first in both the 1000 freestyle (10:10:54) and the 500 freestyle (4:56:37).

"The win over Gettysburg was an excellent start to the semester for the men's team," head coach Matt Kinney said. "After intense training throughout the season came to its peak over the past couple of weeks, the team was ready to show its strength in dual competition."

Spirits were hardly dampened by the women's loss to Gettysburg by the score of 134-71. In fact, the MWC women's swimming team turned in some excellent individual performances.

Freshman Kathryn Anderson won the 200 back with a time of 2:17:94, while Lisa Carlson took second in the 50 freestyle (25:96) and Kathryn Stensfeld took second in the 200 freestyle (1:58:84).

The team's main focus, however, is the CAC Championships coming up from Feb. 14 to the 16.

"Dual meets are important, but they're not our main focus. Right now we're

concentrating on conferences," Kinney said.

The men's victory over Gettysburg and the impressive individual performances turned in by both the men and women's teams set the team up for a success in the approaching Capital Athletic Conference Championships.

"Coming from our intense training in Florida we're in really good shape, where we need to be with our training," junior Priscilla Tomescu and The Bulletin staff writer said. "Now we're tapering down and shifting our focus to fitness and confidence. We've worked hard, now we're just keeping our eye on the championships."

Coming up to the end of the season, the men's team is 10-0 and the women are 8-1. The Eagles will travel to John's Hopkins University for a meet this Friday against the Blue Jays. The CAC Championships are only a couple of weeks later and will be held in the Goodrick Gymnasium.



Sophomore Susie Duke practices before conferences next month.

File Photo/Bullet

Scene

your guide to entertainment

FAST FACT:

The bagpipe was originally made from the whole skin of a dead sheep.

coming attractions

▼ **Thursday, Jan. 23:**
"Are 'Western' Human Rights Values Offensive? (and to Whom?)," by Dr. Rhoda Howard-Hassmann, James Farmer Visiting Professor in Human Rights at Mary Washington College. 7 p.m. in Rm 139 in Combs Hall. **Free.**

▼ **Sunday, Jan. 26:**
Piano Recital by Lynne Mackey, Mary Washington College Dept. of Music. 7:30 p.m. in George Washington Hall, Dodd Auditorium. **Free.**

▼ **Tuesday, Jan. 28:**
"Murderous Maids" (French with English subtitles). 7:15 p.m. in George Washington Hall, Dodd Auditorium. **Free.**

top ten movies

1. Kangaroo Jack
2. National Security
3. Just Married
4. The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers
5. Catch Me If You Can
6. Chicago
7. A Guy Thing
8. About Schmidt
9. The Hours
10. Two Weeks Notice

Opening This Weekend:
"Darkness Falls" with Emma Caulfield.

source: www.imdb.com

Quote of the Week

"Sometimes I doubt your commitment to Sparkle Motion!"

-Kitty,
"Donnie Darko"

The Underground: Underrated?

Campus Hangout Books Bands, Lures Students

By BRIAN DOYLE
Staff Writer

The Underground - everyone on campus knows about it, and almost everyone has been there at one point. Given all that it has to offer to the average college student, one has to wonder why it isn't packed on any given day.

Senior Meridith Munoz, one of the students in charge of running the Underground, said that the Underground is commonly used as another study environment, but the environment does not appeal to every student.

"Not everyone is up for studying in a social area that frequently has music playing, people smoking, and constant conversation," Munoz said.

For other people, however, that's just the kind of surroundings they like. The Underground has a diverse group of regulars, varying from the track team to the school's many musicians.

Not only is the Underground a place where students can go to listen to music, hang out with friends, choose from the eclectic selection of teas, study, or just relax, but is also the place where many Mary Washington College based bands get their start.

"I go to see my favorite local bands. And it's cheap," said sophomore Christopher Williams.

Munoz said she was excited about the coming attractions that the Underground has planned. She said it was difficult to schedule who was going to play because they have "a huge sack full of demos" from bands based all around the country. Munoz said that she is excited about the list of performers that the Underground will have this semester.

"It's really laid back," said sophomore Ian Rhoad. "It's a great place to hear music."

This past Monday, the Underground hosted a free hip-hop show featuring sophomore Bryan Fryzel, Sound System 5, Supastition, and the Understudies.

"I liked Sound System 5. I have heard them a few times and they did a great job," said sophomore Kiki Williams. "I loved Supastition. Bryan Fryzel gave me Supa's cd and I listen to it all the time so I was excited to see Supa the most."

On Thursday, Feb. 6, local-based bands Paper Doll, from Northern Virginia, and Ri Byoki, from Richmond, will perform, possibly along with Temporary Basement. On Sunday, Feb. 16, the band Q and not U will return.

"I've had a lot of people come up to me asking when Q and not U was coming back," Munoz said.



Worth Stokes/ Bulletin

Sound System 5 performs at the Underground on Monday night.

According to Munoz, there is a deliberate attempt by the Underground staff to increase the number of Mary Washington College bands performing

throughout the year. The Underground is also planning a performance to featuring only Mary Washington College bands such as The Thrift Shop Lifters, the Bad Luck Idols, and Pets or Meat. Other Mary Washington bands that are likely to perform this semester include This Boy's Trouble and Here Today.

"I love being up close and personal and on the same level with the artists, and I'm glad they are bringing some different styles to the stage instead of the same old thing," Williams said. "I feel like I will actually start going to more of the music events they have there."

Performances at the Underground are not limited to established bands; there are also Open Mic Nights, which the Underground hopes to host more often.

According to Munoz, it was difficult to host one Open Mic Night per month last semester, but the staff is making a significant attempt to increase the frequency for this semester. She also said that the Underground would continue the tradition of giving monetary rewards to the winners of Open Mic Night. According to Munoz, the Open Mic Night is a great opportunity for poets, musicians, whether it be guitarists, violinists, or opera singers, as well as dancers and comedians to show their stuff to the students of Mary Washington.

"It's like a bar or jazz club with an intimate smoky atmosphere," said sophomore Carolyn Myers.

"I love being up close and personal and on the same level with the artists..."

Kiki Williams

Students Battle It Out, Classic Karaoke Style

By JENNIFER BELL
Staff Writer

Jerry Seinfeld once used a joke in his comedy act about fear: he said that Americans' number one fear is having to speak in front of crowds and secondly, death. Being true, most people would rather find themselves in the casket at a funeral as opposed to being the person who has to give the eulogy. Even so, a group of Mary Washington College students defied that notion this past weekend, all in the name of a little karaoke.

Friday Jan. 17, the Office of Student Activities and Community Service (OSACS), sponsored a karaoke night as part of their Fling Into Spring program. Fling Into Spring was designed to offer students an alcohol and drug free evening. OSACS was provided with up to \$1000 from a grant for funding, while the Wood Company donated the food for the evening's event.

Many people started flowing into the Washroom in the Campus Center a little before karaoke began at seven p.m. Although some of the crowd was lured to the festivities to grab the coveted free plastic cups, many stayed till the end of the night to see the contestants perform and to cheer them on.

"I was really surprised that so many people came out here tonight since it's a Friday night and people just got back to school," said freshman Paul Kozar.

The atmosphere in the Washroom was laid back as 26 performers sang along with songs ranging from country to pop to old school rap, as well as

two well-known classic karaoke staples, "Louie Louie" by The Kingsmen and "Baby Got Back" by Sir Mix a Lot. Many of the performers lacked experience singing in front of crowds, but that didn't appear to dampen their spirits.

"The crowd was awesome during my song," said freshman Tim Cook, who performed "Awake" by Heart. "They were dancing and cheering me on. It helped me feel a lot more comfortable up there."

Of the five elements in which contestants were judged, one was crowd reaction. The other four categories included choreography, accuracy, enthusiasm, and sound quality. The rating scale ranged from one to five; each performer scored a three or better in each category.

Senior Shaunte Jones won \$100 with her first place performance of "I Get So Weak in the Knees." Junior LoriAnn Maresca captured second place and \$75 with her rendition of Diana Ross' power anthem, "I Will Survive." Third place and \$50 went to sophomore Cara Stout who provided the audience with a very entertaining performance of "Baby Got Back" by Sir Mix a Lot.

"It was a great experience," Stout said. "I would definitely do it again."

The next Fling Into Spring event will be the Step Show, sponsored by OSACS and Women Of Color on Feb. 1



Photo Courtesy Tracy Ham

Juniors Ame Bristow and Holly White won \$20 for "Best Coordinated."

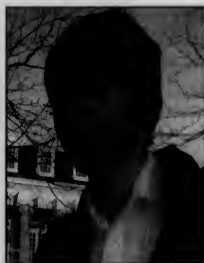
What Is Your New Years Resolution?

Photos And Interviews By Jackie Mancini



"To stop watching
'Dawson's Creek.'"

- Ryan Little, freshman



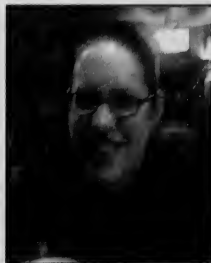
"To stop wearing this
hat."

- William Daniel
Malcom, junior



"To not procrastinate."

- Rachel Hundley,
freshman



"No more dark and
brooding boys."

- Mandy Dunn, senior



"To eat more!"

- Matt Sevon, senior

Denzel Washington Delights in 'Antwone Fisher'

By KATIE JENSEN

Staff Writer

In his directorial debut, actor Denzel Washington delivers an emotionally explosive and intense drama in "Antwone Fisher."

"Antwone Fisher" tells the story of a troubled sailor whose attitude and fighting lands him in the office of Navy psychiatrist Jerome Davenport and on the road to self-discovery.

Davenport (Denzel Washington) needs only three sessions to help Fisher discover the source of his frustrations before giving his recommendation. After a few sessions in which an uncooperative Fisher sits silently, Davenport's patience pays off when Fisher begins to talk about his past, a past filled with abuse, loss, and grief stemming from his placement in the foster home of a fire-breathing preacher and his oppressive wife.

With Davenport's encouragement, and

the understanding of Navy Exchange employee and love interest Cheryl Smolley (Joy Bryant), Fisher realizes he must confront his past and find his roots to move on with his life. The audience is left with several riveting and intoxicatingly euphoric scenes at the end of Fisher's search and a touching final discourse between Fisher and Davenport.

The film's story is similar to a film Washington starred in early in his career. In the film "Glory," Washington played an insubordinate young soldier whose anger sprouted from his past and who finds help and a mentor in an older black soldier played by Morgan Freeman. Perhaps the resemblance sparked Washington's interest enough to make his directorial debut.

The stories do differ as the Antwone Fisher story reveals the parallel between Davenport and Fisher's lives; they are

in therapy together. Inspired by Fisher's humanity, Davenport must come face to face with his own neglect of his personal life and of his wife. His wife Berta (Salli Richardson) remains a peripheral character throughout the movie.

New actors Derek Luke, who plays the title character, and Joy Bryant shine brilliantly under Washington's direction. Other standout performances are those of veterans Vernee Watson Johnson and Viola Davis, though their characters are minor until the end of the film. Their talent is evident in their ability to give color to two characters whose backgrounds are scarcely sketched.

The film is based on the true story of Sony Pictures studio Security officer Antwone Fisher. He wrote the screenplay when, after offhandedly telling executives his life story, the studio producers thought it might make an entertaining film.

"Antwone Fisher" is an irresistible



Derek Luke and Denzel Washington star in "Antwone Fisher."

Photo Courtesy yahoo.com

delight with a blend of emotion, reality, and humanity that leaves the audience with a feel-good atmosphere and the hope

that they too can conquer their own troubles of the past.

"Antwone Fisher" is rated PG-13.

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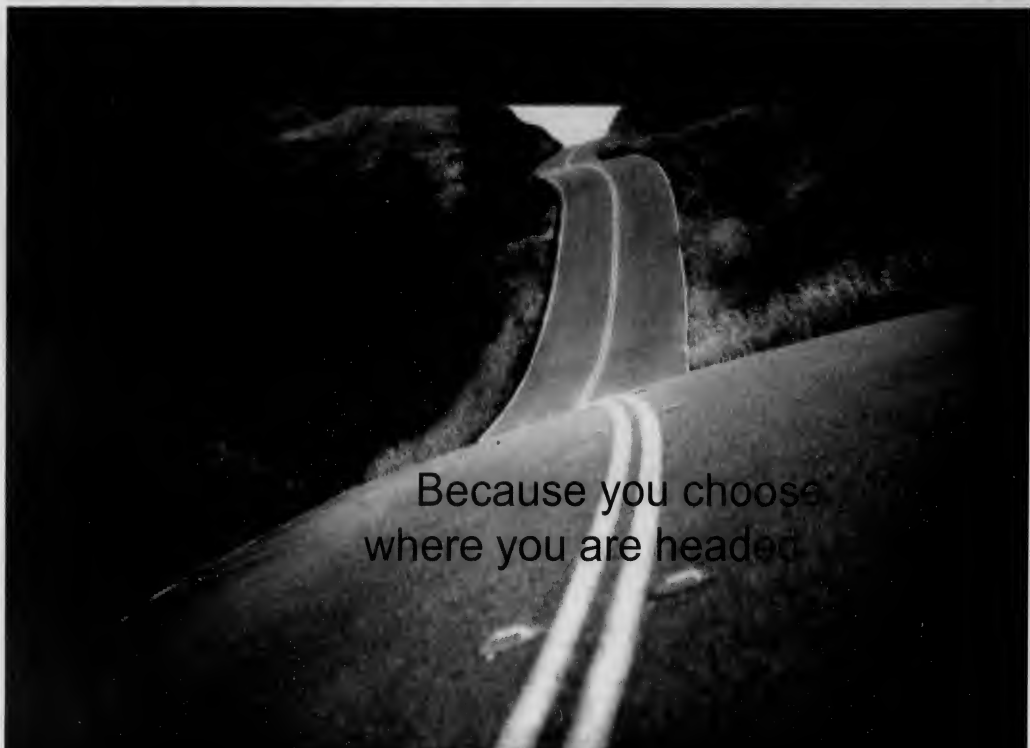
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Crossword 101

By Ed Carty

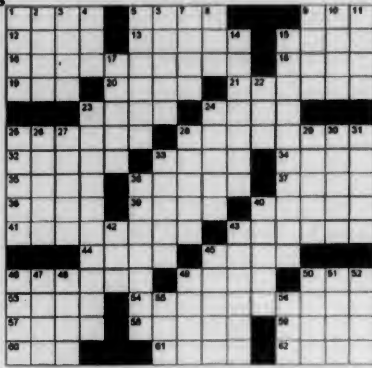
Time on Your Hands

Across

- 1 The greatest number
- 5 Croatian, e.g.
- 9 Python
- 12 Burn soothe
- 13 Shinbone
- 15 Change direction
- 16 JFK schedules
- 18 Ayatollah Khomeini's locale
- 19 Garden tool
- 20 Saber's cousin
- 21 Try out
- 23 Legendary archer
- 24 Certain
- 25 Bearish
- 28 Lunch counter
- 32 Jim Bakker's ex
- 33 1930's dance
- 34 Comfort
- 35 Parisian concept
- 36 Blast
- 37 Additional
- 38 Aloha in Milan
- 39 Helper
- 40 Zip along
- 41 Fighter pilot's unit
- 43 Dressers
- 44 Jerk
- 45 Go-getter
- 46 Fast Spanish dance
- 49 Hawkeye State
- 50 Prosciutto
- 53 Opera feature
- 54 Cold season
- 57 Ogle
- 58 Tardier
- 59 Subject of study
- 60 Rickles for one
- 61 Dozes
- 62 Stoopid

Down

- 1 H.S. requirement
- 2 Hedgepodge
- 3 More than one



4 Plumber's joint

5 Fastener

6 Slander

7 Can do

8 Contend

9 Belch

10 Tough exam

11 Shakespeare's Hathaway

14 Soothe

15 Clock radio, e.g.

17 Very small

22 Curve

23 Fall

24 Small drum

25 New York city

26 Circle measurements

27 Slanderous defamation

28 A window hanging

29 Bundles

30 Valuable quality

31 Walter and Donna

33 Slippery

36 Nightbird

40 Shave off

42 Sculler's nood

43 Crouches

45 Showered with love

46 Word before eagle

47 Nabisco output

48 Property right

49 Division word

50 Sign up

51 Uh-huh in church

52 Filet mignon, e.g.

55 Author Fleming

56 Restaurant bill

Quotable Quote

A man with a watch
knows what time it is.
A man with two
watches is never
sure.

Segal's Law

What's The Difference?

ROBERT P. SIMPSON

Guest Columnist

Having been a part of the College Republicans' debate last semester against the Human Rights Club concerning the use of force in Iraq, I'd like to thank them for such a spirited debate. I'm sure both sides left Lee Hall confident that they had won. Since it would not be right to rebut their arguments about the use of force outside of the debate, I will leave our argument on Iraq where it ended: with no hard feelings. However, the HRC made one statement that I can't let go unchallenged: comparing the integrity of President Bush to that of former President William "the zipper" Clinton.

How can you possibly compare these two people to each other? You can't be serious, can you? You're pulling my leg! Well...maybe not. Let's just look at this, shall we? Where do I begin? Well, I could begin in typical "Clintonian" fashion and look at polling data. Towards the end of his presidency, "Slick Willie" enjoyed an integrity rating of about 30 percent. President Bush, on the other hand, is enjoying an integrity rating over 70 percent (as of Nov. 2002). Now I realize that polling data only reflects the opinions of the American public, and, after all, what do they really know?

So let's look at some facts. President Clinton lied to and misled the American public on numerous occasions. He committed perjury during a deposition as a defendant in a lawsuit. Ask the former White House travel office employees what they think of Clinton's honesty. As columnist Tony Snow once pointed out, every time Clinton came under investigation, the White House used the same tactics: deny the

allegation, attack the accuser, issue their own report exonerating Clinton, spin and change the subject.

President Bush, on the other hand, has not made it a policy to lie to or mislead the American public. He is an honest man, who the overwhelming majority of Americans trust (even those who disagree with him). You may totally disagree with the man's policies and political beliefs, but that can't give you grounds for calling him a liar.

However, call him a liar, or anything else if you must. I understand your frustration. You are finding yourselves members of a party or ideology that is slowly collapsing from within, and you do not understand why. You must be asking yourselves: "How could the Republicans, led by that despicable man, possibly have beaten us in the midterm elections?" Ah! This brings me to my final point. The answer is simple. You are a party and ideology devoid of ideas, and you have no new message. Even James Carville admitted to this on election night. You have no new message or ideas, because in order to have these you must have guiding principles, and your party has none. For the past eight years you have been led by a man who has no moral character or guiding principles, by a man who stuck his finger in the air to see which way the wind was blowing before making a decision. And that is the difference between Clinton and Bush. President Bush leads. He says, "This is what I propose and this is why. Now who is with me?" Look at the results! People follow him. Not because he is a Republican or anything else—but because he has guiding principles, moral values, and he leads based on these.

So again I ask: How can you possibly compare these two people to each other?

Robert P. Simpson is a BLS student.

Alien Attacks The INS!

INS, page 3
speed up the approval of my application. Not so.

This month marks five years since I last applied to become a U.S. citizen. I have been given the rundown by the INS 800-number as well as when I went to the Arlington office in person. I was told there that they had located my file (why was it misplaced to begin

with?) and that I should have an interview date within the month. This was over three months ago. Still I wait.

Yes, I've wanted to vote since AP Government class, but I have also been meaning to legally change my name—something I dare not do before I am granted my citizenship for fear of confusing INS

employees. Why are terrorists given easy access to this country to kill its people, while I served in the military to protect those people and am forced to hold the status of Resident Alien?

Karolina Maria Nowak
graduated in December 2002.



The Weekly Wassup

What to do... Where to go!?

January 23, 2003

Welcome Back!!!



THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY

Gardner
Campbell
reads Walt
Whitman
5:00 Combs
139

Meditation
Workshop
Leidecker
Center for
Asian Studies
Trinkle B39
4:00 p.m.

WINTER
CARNIVAL
Human
Foosball
Tournament
Free Food
2-6 p.m.

SPCA work
10:30 a.m.
Monroe Circle

Polish
Lessons
Noon in the
Writing
Center

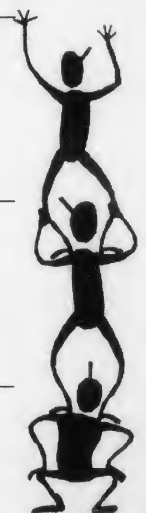
5 Alive
Baptist Student
Union
5 p.m.

Opening
Jazz Recep-
tion
Appetizers
and Music
5-7 p.m.
Ridderhoff
Martin
Gallery

Black Student
Association
5:00 p.m.
Meeting
Room #4

Foreign Film
Series
Murderous
Maids
7:15 p.m.
Dodd
FREE

Break
Dancing
Goolrick
Studio 4
8:30 p.m.
FREE
LESSONS!

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Not Another Hole!

Workers Dig Hole Behind Jepson

By LAURA HENDERSON
Assistant News Editor

Students who live or have classes on the north side of campus were welcomed back to school with a huge hole behind Jepson. Unsure as to why the construction spread from the fitness center to Jepson, students didn't anticipate the orange fences that invaded the Jepson lot.

"I didn't really expect it, it just came out of nowhere," Junior Meghan McMahon said. "I was on my way to geology and all the sudden there were a ton of construction workers and a gigantic hole."

According to Director of Facilities Services John Wittenmuth the hole is related to the fitness center construction.

"The sanitary line for the new building is being placed down the hill and connected with Jepson's sanitary line," Wittenmuth said. "The line still needs to be tested and covered. The construction [behind Jepson] should go on for several more weeks, although it depends upon the weather."

Although some students were surprised by the additional construction, anyone who was, on campus over winter break saw the hole slowly grow beginning in late December.



A hole and orange fencing greeted returning students.

Jackie Mancini/Bullet

"I've been here, so I saw it developing bit by bit. It's strange they had to dig up so much and what it's doing down here, though," Charles Whipkey, assistant professor of Geology said. "I'm not really sure what it's for."

Reactions to the construction were not all neutral. With construction going on so close to the building, noise is becoming a problem for some classes in Jepson Hall.

"My analytical chemistry class was ruined," junior Melissa Stephens said. "We have six hours of lab a week in that classroom, and the professor can't even get through a sentence without some sort of chainsaw ruining things."

The new fitness center, and all of its construction, is expected to be finished by fall 2003.

Sunken Lot Caper Foiled

Suspect Arises From Plague Of Car Vandalism

By LAURA HENDERSON and ALBERT KUGEL
Assistant News Editor and News Editor

Over the last week in November and the first two weeks of December, more than a dozen cars parked in the Mary Washington College Battleground parking lots have been broken into. On Monday, police arrested a 31-year-old black male in connection with a previous number of crimes committed in March and April of 2002 in the Sunken Road parking lots. The suspect, Damian Haussling, has not been tied to the Battleground break-ins.

The December crimes ranged from cars' windows being smashed, stolen stereos, stolen CD cases, according to Mary Washington College Police Lt. J.C. Snipes. Since the crimes, police are patrolling the parking lot more than before.

Sophomore Katherine Amirpashaie was the owner of one of the cars that was vandalized on Nov. 14, 2002.

"They think the people went around with flashlights for CD books and broke the windows of cars to steal them," Amirpashaie said. "In my case, my book was full of mixes so they tried to steal my stereo and proceeded to rip out the whole dash of my car, but they were stupid and couldn't figure out how to get the main part of the stereo out."

Amirpashaie said the total damage was over \$3,100.

Currently, Haussling, the college police's only suspect in the Battleground car break-ins is being held on a \$2,000 bail bond at Rappahannock Regional Jail for possession of stolen property.

"Haussling had been issued a trespass warning for using the Trinkle and Monroe computer labs," Snipes said. "He then started using the library computers."

On Dec. 13, a library staff member who knew Haussling by sight and knew he was barred called Campus Police and said he was in the library.

"By the time the officer reached the library, Haussling had fled to the campus post office," Snipes said. "The officer arrested him on site."

According to Snipes, what Sgt. Taylor found in a large duffel bag that Haussling was carrying led to his Jan. 20 arrest in his room at the Thomas Jefferson Motor Lodge on Augustine Street.

"The suspect had a sport bag with a CD player and over 150 compact discs," Snipes said.

Campus Police soon allowed all students who had property removed from their cars to come in and try to identify any CDs that were theirs.

"One student identified a home burned Stabbing Westward CD as well as a store-bought Blink-182 CD," Snipes said. "This tied him to an act of larceny that occurred on April 19 of 2002."

With the identification, Sgt. Taylor obtained a search warrant for his residence at the lodge.

"We found over 700 CDs in his room," Snipes said.

"Though he hasn't been connected with the [recent] Battleground larceny, it may only be a matter of time until a student can identify any of the CDs."

Snipes also said that the city of Fredericksburg, and Spotsylvania and Stafford counties are looking at Haussling for possible larceny that occurred in other parts of the Fredericksburg area.

Haussling has already served his five days after being convicted of trespassing in January.

Because of the rash of break-ins, several students are unsure as to whether they will have their cars in tow for the spring semester.

"My window got shattered, and they stole all my CDs," sophomore Betsy Pitti said. "My parents don't want me to bring [my car] back, but if I can convince them to let me, I definitely won't be parking there again."

However, the Police Department ensures continued safety for the students parking at the Battleground.

"I think parking there is as safe as anywhere," Snipes said. "We have our own department, and we do more patrol there than any other parking lot gets."

At press time, there was no picture available of Haussling.

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NOTICE TO ALL COLLEGE COMMUNITY MEMBERS

In previous years, the Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity (AAEEO) Committee has examined equal opportunity and affirmative action issues and policies on campus, including a review of the College's affirmative action plans and consulting with the AAEEO officer on diversity initiatives and the implementation of the College's sexual harassment policy. A separate group appointed by President Anderson, the Council on Community Values (CCV), has emphasized the role of honor, integrity, and responsible conduct in maintaining Mary Washington's excellence as a learning community. It has assisted in funding projects – from bringing the AIDS quilt to campus on World AIDS Day to the Multicultural Fair and Alternative Spring Breaks – that support the College's Statement of Community Values.

President Anderson has long wished that the AAEEO Committee, instead of being limited to equal opportunity and affirmative action issues, would have an expanded and more active role within the College community, and that it would be more closely tied to the mission of the CCV. Therefore, President Anderson has merged the AAEEO Committee and the CCV to facilitate achieving the already interconnected goals of these two groups, and to serve the Office of the President in an advisory capacity.

The new AAEEO/CCV Committee has the following goals:

- to foster a learning and work environment in which diversity, equity, respect, and personal and institutional integrity are valued.
- to lend financial assistance to projects and events that support inclusiveness, tolerance, and awareness of community values on campus.
- to invite input from the College community on how these goals can be reached, and on issues and initiatives that impact the recruitment and retention of people of color.

President Anderson has appointed administrative and teaching faculty members, and classified employees, to serve on the Committee. For 2002-03, Committee members are Sallie Braxton, Leah Cox, Natalie Ellis, Constance Gianulis, Bobby Hinson, Deborah Jardin, Terry Luttrell, Venitta McCall, Kimberly McManus, M. Gregg Stull, John Temple, George Thurston, Raymond Tuttle, Barbara Wagar, and Grant Woodwell. The Committee is chaired ex officio by Sabrina Johnson. The Committee welcomes your proposals, your suggestions and ideas, and your concerns in all AAEEO/CCV-related areas. Please do not hesitate to contact any member by e-mail, telephone, or in person when you see them on campus. Meetings for Spring 2003 have been scheduled for the following dates:

- January 31
- February 26
- March 21
- April 18

and we encourage funding proposals and topics for discussion to be brought to the Committee's attention with these dates in mind.

Information about the format for and submission of funding proposals may be obtained by calling Sabrina Johnson at x1046. Her office also serves as a point of contact for any questions related to this notice and to this new committee.